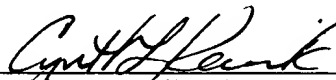
REMARKS

Preliminary to examination, Applicants respectfully request entry of the aforementioned amendment of the specification. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made". No new matter has been added.

If a telephone conversation with Applicants' representative would expedite prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is urged to call the undersigned at (617) 227-7400.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 28, 2001

JAN 22 2002

## VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

***In the Specification:***

The first two sentences beginning at page 1 of the specification were replaced with the following:

This application is a continuation application of ~~serial no.~~ U.S. Serial No. 09/065,019 filed on April 17, 1998, ~~pending~~ (now U.S. Patent No. 6,280,968), which is entitled to claim priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 to Japanese Patent Application Serial No. 7/280272/1995 filed on October 27, 1995, and PCT/JP96/03061 filed on October 22, 1996. The contents of all of the aforementioned application(s) are hereby incorporated by reference.